

Size: 4,858 acres
Mission: Provide long-range bombardment missiles and air refueling support
HRS Score: 33.62; placed on NPL in August 1990
IAG Status: Federal Facility Agreement signed in January 1992
Contaminants: Solvents, petroleum/oil/lubricants, lead, and low-level radioactive waste
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: \$56.6 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): \$34.5 million (FY2018)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for All Sites: FY2005



Rapid City, South Dakota

Restoration Background

Environmental studies conducted from FY85 to FY87 identified 20 sites at Ellsworth Air Force Base. Site types include landfills, underground storage tanks (USTs), maintenance areas, a fire training area, and a low-level radioactive waste burial site. Groundwater and soil contamination resulted from releases of trichloroethene (TCE) and petroleum/oil/lubricants (POL) at these sites. Sites at the installation were classified in 12 operable units (OUs).

In FY91, the installation removed 72 USTs and constructed a pilot-scale groundwater treatment plant for TCE and POL contamination. In FY93, 160 UST sites were evaluated and 31 USTs were removed, including 5 USTs from the low-level radioactive waste burial site. Field-screening techniques were used to eliminate 1 year of Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) activities.

In FY94, Remedial Design began for OUs 1, 2, 4, and 9 through 12. An Interim Action extended the installation's water supply line to three private homes near the southwest part of the base. An additional 100 USTs were removed. In FY95, the installation completed the final FS for OUs 1, 2, 4, 9, 10, and 12 and began Interim Remedial Actions, which included groundwater extraction and treatment and soil vapor extraction. The drinking water program was extended to 12 additional off-base residences with contaminated drinking water wells. Twelve USTs and 4,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil were removed, completing the UST investigation and removal program.

During FY96, a final FS report and a Proposed Plan for OUs 3, 5, 7, and 8 were completed along with the RI/FS report and the Proposed Plan for OU11. Remedial Actions (RAs) started for OUs 1 through 5, 7 through 10, and 12. Construction of a groundwater extraction and treatment system began for OU11, and RA construction was completed at OU6. Interim Records of Decision (RODs) were signed

for OUs 1 and 4, and final RODs were signed for OUs 1 through 10 and OU12. Nine of the final RODs required RAs (OUs 1 through 8 and OU12); two proposed no further action (OU9 and OU10).

In FY97, the ROD for OU11 was signed, and the RA began. RAs were completed for OUs 1 through 5, 8, and 12. Long-term monitoring (LTM) for OUs 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 12 and WP-22 started. Long-term operations (LTO) started for OUs 1, 2, 4, and 11 and non-NPL Sites SS-8, ST-10, and ST-14. The remedy for four of the sites was a landfill cover. The installation also removed unexploded ordnance from Site OT-18.

In FY94, a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) was formed. The installation also formed partnerships with regulatory agencies to expedite document review and facilitate compliance with regulations through preventive measures. In FY96, the RAB held public meetings to review all 11 final RODs.

FY98 Restoration Progress

The RA for OU11 continued. The drinking water program was extended with a 26,640-foot water line on the eastern part of the base. LTM and operations and maintenance continued. After ordnance removal, a Preliminary Assessment and Site Inspection (PA/SI) began at OT-18. A PA/SI at Site ST-26 (non-NPL) began.

Bimonthly construction meetings and weekly conference calls involving the installation, Air Combat Command, regulatory agencies, contractors, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers allowed project coordination and execution.

Plan of Action

- Extend RA at OU11

- Finish PA/SI for Site OT-18 and start RI/FS
- Continue LTM and LTO at all OUs and all sites except WP-22
- Continue PA/SI and cleanup of new site ST-26 (non-NPL)

FY99 FUNDING BY PHASE AND RELATIVE RISK

